ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An electromagnetic retarder used to reduce the speed of a rotating machine. This retarder comprises a stator through which a first shaft passes and a rotor which is assembled with the first shaft. The first shaft has a first end and a second end which are axially opposite and which can be coupled respectively to a second shaft which is linked to a motive source and a third shaft which is linked to a load. The first shaft is configured, at least at one of the two ends thereof, in such a way that it can be respectively coupled to the first or second shaft in an axially sliding manner.